## AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

**Please amend the paragraph on page 50, line 1, to line 5, as follows:**

(iii) A selection range I[A] for each search vector is assigned in the space [0, 1] according to Equations 13 below, for example.

(Eqs. 13)

Ih[0]=0

$$Ih[A] = \sum_{j=o}^{A} h[j]$$

~~I[A]=[Ih[A-1], Ih[A])~~ I[A-1]=[Ih[A-1], Ih[A]]          (A=1, . . ., Nch)

**Please amend the paragraph on page 50, line 9, to line 12, as follows:**

Also, a set Num = (num[0], num[1], ..., num[Nch-1]) in <u>is found. Each element of Num, num[B] (B=0, 1, . . ., Nch-1), is defined as the selection range I[A] which satisfies Equation 14 below.</u> ~~num[B] = I[A] that satisfies Equation 14 below is found for the random numbers ra[B] in the set RR.~~ In this way the set of Nch number of search vectors corresponding to the set Num is selected.

**Please amend the paragraph on page 74, line 11, to line 15, as follows:**

The correction coefficient can be given according to Equation 20 using the average value ave_ed of the edge data ed(i, j) for each pixel of the pre-processed input image.

[Eqs. 20]

dAr=dAg=dAb=dAcen-dAdev×(ed(i, j)-ave_ed)

Rr(i, j) = r(i, j)/(dAr×Ar(i, j))

Rg(i, j) = g(i, j)/(dAg×Ag(i, j))

Rb(i, j) = b(i, j)/(dAb×Ab(i, j))